

**To:** StClair, Christie[StClair.Christie@epa.gov]  
**Cc:** Grantham, Nancy[Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov]  
**From:** Ethan Barton  
**Sent:** Mon 3/7/2016 10:29:12 PM  
**Subject:** Re: Superfund 101

Overall, I'm interested in Superfund's successes and challenges. I understand that funding has decreased significantly, which has been a major burden on the EPA. I also understand that many sites are highly contaminated and may take years, or even decades to clean, even without a funding issue. So, I'm curious about how EPA will combat these challenges, its plan to clean its more than 1,000 superfund sites, and any timeframe estimates.

I'd also like to hear about success stories, sites that have been declared clean, how long it took and how much money it cost, and how the sites are now used.

I also understand that localities often resist superfund listings because of effects on property value, I'm told. I'd like to know if there are other reasons for such resistance and how the EPA can combat that.

Lastly, I'm curious about how expenditures are broken down from beginning to end of a listing.

For CERCLA data, I was hoping to get the data used in EPA's database as a .xlsx, .db, .acddb, or .csv so that I could use Microsoft Access to query the data.

On Mon, Mar 7, 2016 at 5:04 PM, StClair, Christie <[StClair.Christie@epa.gov](mailto:StClair.Christie@epa.gov)> wrote:

Thanks, Ethan. It will help me connect you with the right person if I have a better sense of where you want to dig a little deeper into the process.

For the CERCLA data, can you narrow down what raw data you're looking for?

Christie

**Christie St. Clair**

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**From:** Ethan Barton [mailto:[ethan@dailycallernewsfoundation.org](mailto:ethan@dailycallernewsfoundation.org)]

**Sent:** Monday, March 07, 2016 4:54 PM

**To:** StClair, Christie <[StClair.Christie@epa.gov](mailto:StClair.Christie@epa.gov)>

**Cc:** Grantham, Nancy <[Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov](mailto:Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov)>

**Subject:** Re: Superfund 101

Great, thanks Christie.

I've read the Superfund portion of the website, but I didn't see the blog post. I'll take a look at that either tonight or tomorrow morning. I'll let you know when I've finished. Thanks.

Ethan

On Mon, Mar 7, 2016 at 4:01 PM, StClair, Christie <[StClair.Christie@epa.gov](mailto:StClair.Christie@epa.gov)> wrote:

For Superfund 101, it would be good to start by boning up on the basics. Can you take a look at this and then let me know where you'd like to dig in and get more info?

- OLEM's Assistant Administrator wrote a blog giving a great overview – a lot of reporters have found it helpful. <https://blog.epa.gov/blog/2015/10/learn-about-superfund-npl/>

- The Superfund section of our site has a more detailed overview of the process, start to finish - <http://www.epa.gov/superfund/superfund-cleanup-process>

For CERCLA data, I'm working on it now.

For a statement, this is attributable to Nancy Grantham:

EPA appreciates the concerns that states, tribes, and communities have regarding the potential for the spring runoff to mobilize sediments deposited by the Gold King Mine release and decades of drainage from the many mines in the Silverton area.

EPA is providing \$2 million in funding to support states' and tribes' long-term monitoring plans. Utah, New Mexico, Southern Ute Indian Tribe, Ute Mountain Ute Tribe, Navajo Nation, and Colorado may apply those funds to spring monitoring and preparedness planning as well.

EPA is also supporting a stakeholder-driven effort – called the Animas-San Juan Preparedness Plan – to coordinate monitoring efforts. The group's latest meeting on Feb. 29 was attended by the states of New Mexico, Utah and Colorado, the Southern Ute and Navajo Nation, and local jurisdictions. EPA is providing the group with technical and infrastructure support to help stakeholders better coordinate their monitoring plans and share environmental data.

EPA is conducting its own comprehensive post-release sampling of the Animas and San Juan Rivers from above Silverton, Colorado to Lake Powell, Utah. The first round of sampling results will be released this month. The next sampling event will take place at the end of March, followed by additional sampling in June and in the fall. EPA will also coordinate with local jurisdictions to sample the rivers during storm events in the summer.

The interim water treatment plant, installed in November 2015, is treating ongoing acid mine drainage being discharged from the Gold King Mine (GKM). The plant, which replaced the temporary treatment ponds that were put in after the August 2015 release to treat mine water discharge, will be operated over the winter, with removal work resuming this summer. EPA is still assessing the appropriate overall duration of the plant's operations. As part of our continuing discussions over longer term efforts to address wide-spread acid mine drainage in the Upper Animas Watershed, the EPA will continue to work with local, tribal, nongovernmental and other stakeholders on water treatment options and other long-term solutions to the impacts from mining in the Upper Animas Watershed. Regardless of what solutions these discussions lead to, downstream communities will not be asked to pay for water treatment.

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**From:** Ethan Barton [mailto:[ethan@dailycallernewsfoundation.org](mailto:ethan@dailycallernewsfoundation.org)]

**Sent:** Monday, March 07, 2016 3:11 PM

**To:** StClair, Christie <[StClair.Christie@epa.gov](mailto:StClair.Christie@epa.gov)>

**Cc:** Grantham, Nancy <[Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov](mailto:Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov)>

**Subject:** Re: Superfund 101

Hi Christie,

Yes, I'm looking to learn about Superfund. Would it be possible to speak with someone about this sometime this week?

I was also hoping I could receive a copy of the raw data for the CERCLA database.  
(<http://www.epa.gov/enviro/cerclis-search>)

And yes, please send along a statement.

Thanks,

Ethan

On Mon, Mar 7, 2016 at 2:59 PM, StClair, Christie <[StClair.Christie@epa.gov](mailto:StClair.Christie@epa.gov)> wrote:

Hi Ethan,

Julia Valentine tells me you're interested in a Superfund 101.

What is your timeframe looking like?

Also, let me know if you're interested in updating your NM piece from 3/1, I'd be glad to send you our statement.

Thanks,

Christie

**Christie St. Clair**

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